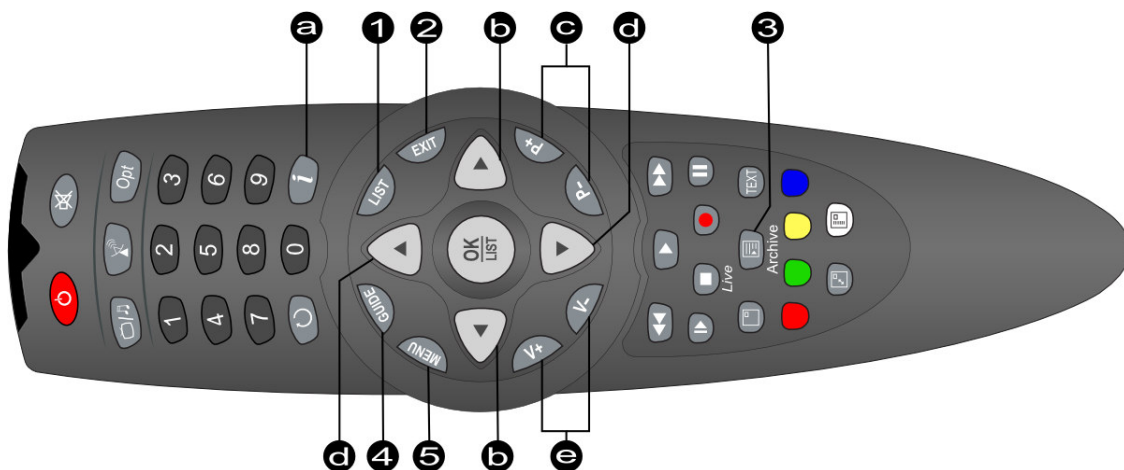# v1.1 user guide

Introduction

iGuide is a Topfield Application Program (TAP) providing a grid-style Electronic Programme Guide (EPG) for the Topfield TF5800 DVB-T PVR, incorporating now-and-next information, series-link timers which provide the ability for all episodes in a series to be recorded automatically, and cross-channel recording patterns which allow related programmes on different channels to be recorded automatically. It is currently available with English, Polish, Norwegian and Welsh language packs.

iGuide allows the creation of EPG Views – lists of channels in a user-defined order – giving easy access to favourites lists for different individuals, family-safe EPG views (e.g. with adult channels hidden) or even Sky+ like categories ('Children's', 'Movies' etc.).

iGuide can be downloaded from http://www.shinyford.co.uk/toppy/iguide.zip. This manual can be downloaded from http://www.shinyford.co.uk/toppy/iguide.pdf. MP3 music files, to be played as background music while viewing e.g. EPG pages – should that sort of thing be your cup of tea – can be downloaded from http://www.shinyford.co.uk/toppy/iguide_music.zip.

Key	No.	Function
[LIST]	1	EPG Views screen
[EXIT]	2	*See description below*
[ARCHIVE]	3	Recordings & Timers screens
[GUIDE]	4	Grid-style EPG
[MENU]	5	Configuration screen
[INFO]	a	
[LEFT], [RIGHT]	b	
[CH. UP]*, [CH. DN.]*	c	Show/navigate through now-and-next banner
[UP], [DN.]	d	
[VOL. UP], [VOL. DN.]	e	

* also causes channel change

If pressed during a standard broadcast (i.e. without any on-screen display present) the [EXIT] key causes the next key press to be ignored by iGuide, and thus handled by other TAPs or the Topfield OS. To access the standard Topfield menu when viewing a broadcast, press [EXIT] followed by [MENU].

Starting *iGuide*

If *iGuide* is installed in the `/ProgramFiles/AutoStart` directory it will be loaded whenever the TF5800 is switched on; this is the recommended option. It can also be started manually, if installed elsewhere, through the usual Topfield TAP loading interface. Note that *iGuide* requires a number of configuration and support files to be loaded and/or created: these will be located either in the same directory as the TAP file itself, or (for preference) in a directory called `iguide`, itself located in that same directory (e.g. if the TAP is to be found in `/ProgramFiles`, then the configuration files will be found in `/ProgramFiles/iguide` or `/ProgramFiles` if that does not exist).

iGuide **Screens**

All *iGuide* functions are accessed from the standard TF5800 remote control.

1. The EPG Grid Screen

The EPG Grid screen shows programme information for seven channels at a time, over a certain time window (this size of which can be chosen as described below). The channels displayed are taken from, and ordered by, the current EPG View (see below).

Access the EPG grid screen by pressing the [GUIDE] button. [EXIT] will close the screen and revert to the current channel.

Other key actions:

[RED/GREEN]: Move a page up/down i.e. to the previous/next seven channels

[YELLOW/BLUE]: Move forward/back 24 hours

[UP/DOWN ARROW]: Move to the previous/next channel in the list

[LEFT/RIGHT ARROW]: Move to the previous/next programme on the current channel

[REW/FFW]: Move one page back/forward in time (i.e. if you're looking at a grid covering 3.00pm to 6.00pm [REW] will move to a page covering 12.00pm to 3.00pm; [FFW] will move to a page covering 6.00pm to 9.00pm).

[PAUSE]: Change the size of the time window. Pressing [PAUSE] repeatedly will cycle through time periods from 1 hour to 4 hours in half-hour chunks. The greater the time period, the more programmes are shown at once - but with less detail for each programme title.

[SLOW]: Show (limited) information for the channels. Pressing [SLOW] repeatedly will cycle through the following options: no information; position in EPG view; position + channel name; position + logical channel number; position + MUX frequency; position + signal quality.

[PLAY]: exit the screen and tune to the currently selected channel.

[RECALL]: Repopulate the EPG information for the currently selected channel.

[OK]:

> If the programme currently selected in the grid is a "NO INFORMATION" event, pressing [OK] triggers an attempt to get EPG information for the channel and repopulate the screen.

> If that's not the case and the currently selected programme is on now, pressing [OK] tunes to it.

> If that's not the case then pressing [OK] acts as if [REC] were pressed (see below).

[REC]:

> If the programme currently selected in the grid has a series-link recording, pressing [REC] enters the Edit Pattern screen (see below) for this series-link.

> If that's not the case and the currently selected programme has a recording, pressing [REC] tries to turn this into a series-link recording.

> If that's not the case and the currently selected programme has a watch timer, pressing [REC] turns this into a 'Recording' timer.

> If that's not the case then pressing [REC] creates a recording timer for the currently selected programme.

[WHITE]:

> As [REC], except that in the last instance a Watch timer is created rather than a Recording timer.

[STOP]:

> If the programme currently selected in the grid has a recording, a watch timer or a series-link, you will be asked if you really want to delete it: pressing the [YELLOW] key will confirm this, causing the recording to be deleted (and, in the case of series-link, all linked recordings).
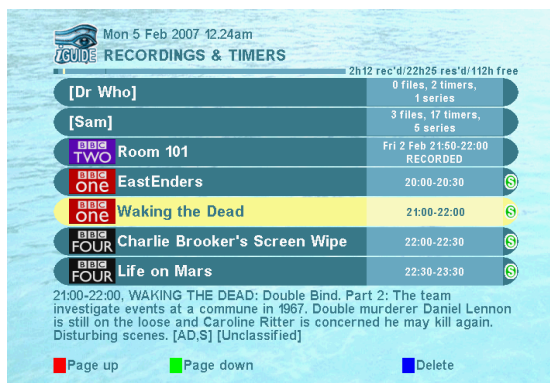
[GUIDE]:

> Enter the EPG View screen to choose a different EPG view.

2. The Recordings and Timers Screen

The Recordings and Timers screen shows subfolders in the current folder, recordings available to play in the current folder, and upcoming timers waiting to happen, ordered by time.

At the top of the Recordings and Timers screen is a line representing the hard disk, separated into two regions: used (dark turquoise in the image) and unused (light turquoise). Figures also show the number of hours recorded, waiting to be recorded ('reserved') and (approximately) remaining.

Access the recordings and timers screen by pressing the [ARCHIVE] button. [EXIT] or [ARCHIVE] will close the screen and revert to the current channel.

Other key actions:

[RED]: Moves a page up i.e. to the previous seven events

[GREEN]: Moves a page down

[YELLOW]: 'Up': If in a subfolder, causes *iGuide* to navigate up to the parent folder and display its contents.

[BLUE]: Asks for confirmation to delete the currently selected recording, timer or series. Pressing [YELLOW] will confirm the deletion; any other key cancels.

[UP/DOWN ARROW]: Move to the previous/next event.

[LEFT/RIGHT ARROW]: If the currently selected event is a completed recording, it will display as "RECORDED" (if it has yet to be played), "START" or "END" (if the playback position is in the first or last minute of the recording respectively) or "*xx* MINS VIEWED". Pressing [LEFT/RIGHT ARROW] will cause the number of minutes viewed to go down/up, so as to change the play position.

[REW/FFW]: As [LEFT/RIGHT ARROW] but in intervals of 15 minutes.

[GUIDE]: Goes to the EPG View screen. If the currently selected recording/timer is an upcoming timer, centres the EPG view screen on that event.

[OK]:

If the currently selected recording/timer is recorded programme, plays it.

If the currently selected recording/timer is an upcoming timer that is part of a series link, pressing [OK] enters the Series Link Pattern Edit screen (see below).
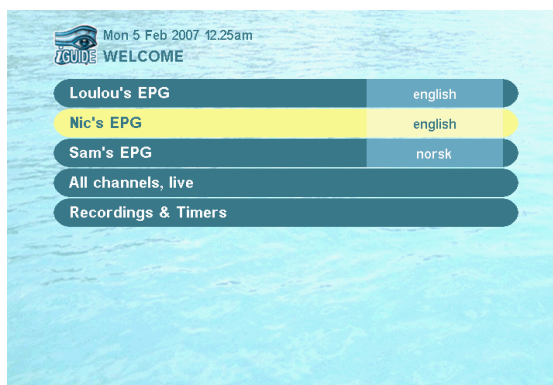
If the currently selected recording/timer is an upcoming timer that is not part of a series link, causes a series link to be created based on the timed programme, and enters the edit screen for that programme.

[PLAY]: Tries to play the current event (NB: this won't work if it's an upcoming timer that has not yet started).

3. The EPG View ('Welcome') Screen

The EPG View screen shows any EPG views currently created, and indicates the language each will display in.

Two pseudo-views are also displayed and available here: "All Channels, Live" (a default view showing all available channels in their standard order); and "Recordings and Timers" (a pseudo-view which takes you to the recordings screen.)
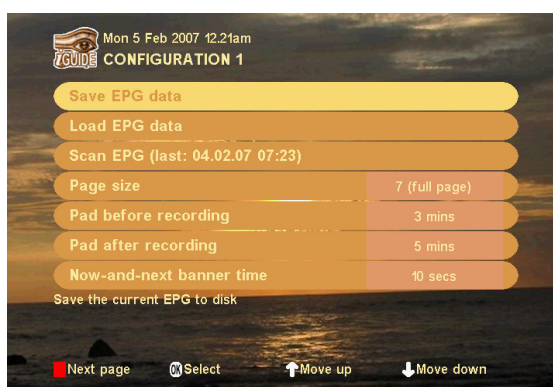
Access the EPG view screen by pressing the [LIST] button. [EXIT] or [LIST] will close the screen and revert to the current channel.

[UP/DOWN ARROW] navigates to the previous/next view. [OK] or [GUIDE] selects the currently selected view and enters its EPG Grid page. From now on the EPG Grid page, and the now-and-next banner will use this view.

4. The Configuration Screen

Accessed through the [MENU] key. Use [UP ARROW] and [DOWN ARROW] to scroll through the options. [EXIT] or [MENU] will close the screen and revert to the current channel.

Note that while in the Configuration screen, pressing the [WHITE] key will cause *iGuide* to fully exit: i.e. the TAP will unload completely.

The available options are:

SAVE EPG DATA:
Press [OK] to save the current EPG data held by *iGuide* to disk.

LOAD EPG DATA:
Press [OK] to load previously-saved EPG data.

SCAN CHANNELS FOR EPG DATA:
Press [OK] to start an EPG scan. This is the process by which *iGuide* loads in all EPG data from over the air. If you are unhappy with the number of programmes *iGuide* displays in the EPG grid you can initiate a scan here; alternatively, *iGuide* automatically performs this scan at or around 3.00am every morning.

This process is fairly quick if the TF5800 has 'Bastille-day' firmware or later: *iGuide*   just   goes   away   and   finds   what   it   can.

If earlier firmware is in place then this is a slower process, requiring a retuning of the PVR to each available multiplex in turn and a period of time 'resting' on that channel before EPG data is harvested. In this instance the time spent resting on a multiplex (from 5 seconds to 15 minutes) can be chosen by pressing the [RIGHT ARROW] and [LEFT ARROW] keys to change the option prior to pressing [OK].

PAGE SIZE:
The number of lines to scroll the EPG page by, when pressing the [UP/DOWN ARROW] in the EPG grid screen while the highlighted programme is in either the first or last row. Use [LEFT/RIGHT ARROW] to choose one of:

   7 (full page) – the default behaviour, all seven visible channels are replaced with the next/previous seven

   6 (keep channel) – the current channel moves to the top or bottom position as appropriate and the next/previous six channels are displayed

   3 (half page) – the current channels scroll up or down as appropriate such that the current highlighted channel takes the middle position, and the next/previous three channels are displayed above or below as necessary.

   1 (line by line) – the current channels scroll up or down as appropriate by one line, and the next/previous channel selected and displayed.
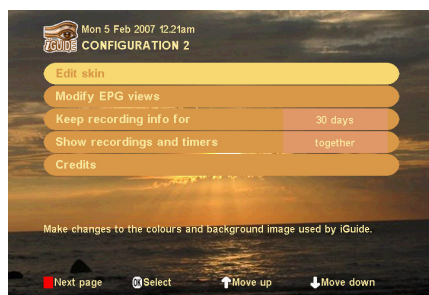
PAD BEFORE RECORDING:
Use [LEFT ARROW] and [RIGHT ARROW] to choose a start-pad value: this is the number of minutes by which to commence recording before the start of a programme. The default is 3 minutes.

PAD AFTER RECORDING:
Use [LEFT ARROW] and [RIGHT ARROW] to choose an end-pad value: this is the number of minutes after the end of a programme to stop a recording. The default is 10 minutes.

NOW-AND-NEXT BANNER TIME:
Use [LEFT ARROW] and [RIGHT ARROW] to choose the number of seconds the now-and-next banner remains on screen following a keystroke. The default is 10 seconds.

EDIT SKIN:
Press [OK] to enter the Edit Skin screen – see below.

MODIFY EPG VIEWS:
Press [OK] to enter the Modify EPG Views screen – see below.

KEEP RECORDING INFO FOR…:
After a recording has been viewed and deleted *iGuide* will keep information about it for a certain amount of time in order to stop a repeat of the show being recorded (assuming it was recorded via series link defined as unique – see below). This option allows you to define how long to keep such a record for before deleting it.

SHOW RECORDINGS AND TIMERS…:
Use [LEFT ARROW] and [RIGHT ARROW] to choose one of 'Together' or 'Apart'. If 'Apart':
    pressing [ARCHIVE] brings up a list of recordings; pressing [ARCHIVE] a second time swaps to a list of timers. Successive presses of [ARCHIVE] swap between the too views.

If 'Together':
    pressing [ARCHIVE] brings up a list of all recordings and timers, *a la* Sky+.

CREDITS:
Use [OK] to select. (I got bored.)

Pressing the [RED] or [MENU] keys moves to the next page in the configuration screen.

5. The Modify EPG Views Screen

The Modify EPG View screen lists the current user-defined EPG views and allows certain actions to be taken out on them. The Modify EPG Views screen is entered from the Configuration screen. [EXIT] will navigate to the EPG Views screen.

Other key actions:

[RED]: Enters the Edit EPG View screen for the currently selected view
[GREEN]: Allows you to rename the current view by entering Edit Mode (see below)

[YELLOW]: Allows you to create an EPG View (if there's enough room for another one).

[BLUE]: Deletes the currently selected EPG View. [YELLOW] must be pressed next to complete the deletion; any other key cancels.

[OK]: Selects the current view so that it can be moved up and down the list, or, if already in select mode, cancels it.

[UP/DOWN ARROW]: Moves to the previous/next EPG view, or, if in select mode, moves the current view up/down the list.

[LEFT/RIGHT ARROW]: Allows you to change the language of the currently selected view. By default *iGuide* has an English language pack. Other languages can be added by creation of "*xxxxxx*.igs" files, containing required words and phrases in the appropriate language: "polski.igs" and "norsk.igs" are provided, but *iGuide* will support as many languages as there are .igs files at its start time. (NB: the file "english.igs" is also provided but is not actually required; this may be a good starting point for creation of other language files.)

6. The Edit EPG View Screen

The Edit EPG View screen allows channels to be reordered and hidden or unhidden within the current EPG view.

Key actions:

[RED]: Hides or unhides the current channel

[YELLOW]: Saves the current state of the EPG view and exits to the Modify EPG Views screen

[BLUE]: Exits to the Modify EPG Views screen without saving

[OK]: Selects the current channel so that it can be moved up and down the list, or, if already in select mode, cancels it.

[UP/DOWN ARROW]: Moves to the previous/next channel, or, if in select mode, moves the current channel up/down the list.

7. The Series-Link Pattern Edit Screen

iGuide implements series links by creating patterns that match on to programmes in the EPG. Generally the defaults will match successfully, but the settings can be adjusted in this screen.

Key actions:

[RED]: After confirmation (by pressing [YELLOW] – any other key cancels) deletes the current series link and exits.

[GREEN]: 'Refreshes' the current pattern by removing any information regarding deleted recordings which match it. Use this if a pattern should be matching an event but isn't.

[YELLOW]: Saves the current state of the series link and exits

[BLUE]: Exits without saving

Use [UP ARROW] and [DOWN ARROW] to scroll through the options. The available options are:

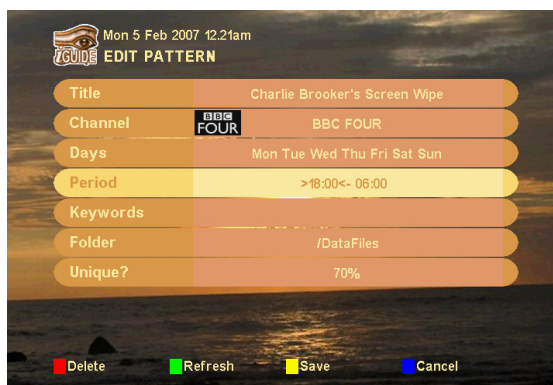TITLE: The title of the programme to match against. Press [OK] to enter edit mode to change the title – see below.

The title can contain wildcards:

'?'   matches any single character
'*'   matches zero or more arbitrary characters
'\'   matches the next character exactly

The title can contain multiple different patterns, separated by the bar ('|') character.

Examples:

Pattern to match	Possible matching programme titles
Doctor Who	Doctor Who
D*r Who	Doctor Who Dr Who Dog Botherer Who
Doctor Who|Dr Wh?	Doctor Who Dr Who Dr Why
Doctor Who*|Dr Who*	Doctor Who Dr Who Doctor Who And The Daleks Dr Who Confidential
Who\?	Doctor Who? Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?

CHANNEL: The channel the programmes will be found on. Use [LEFT/RIGHT ARROW] to change.

Note that *iGuide* provides channel groups so that series links can span multiple channels. Available channel groups can be found at the end of the channel list – they are possibly easier to find by pressing the [LEFT ARROW] key to navigate back before the first channel in the list (e.g. BBC1, the first standard channel in the UK).

By default five channel groups are provided: "All channels", "All BBC channels", "All ITV channels", "C4, E4, More4, Film4" (the Channel 4 group) and "five, five life, five US" (the channel five group). Other channel groups can be created by editing the configuration files (see below).

DAYS: The days on which to search for matching programmes. By default this is every day, but can be changed to any individual day, weekdays, weekend or weekdays + Saturday using the [LEFT/RIGHT ARROW] keys.

PERIOD: A block of time on the identified days in which to search for programmes – a programme is deemed to be in a block if it starts or ends in the block. By default this block is the quadrant of the day (0000-0600, 0600-1200, 1200-1800 or 1800-0000) in which the original programme appears, or two such quadrants if it spans them. This default sorts out most things – e.g. it'll get all the weekday episodes of EastEnders but not the Sunday omnibus – but it can be changed at will. Use [OK] to swap focus between the start and end periods, and [LEFT/RIGHT ARROW] to change these times (it'll make more sense if and when you try it). If end time is less than start time, the block is deemed to be overnight.

KEYWORDS: A series of keywords (actually phrases) separated by commas. If this list exists, the pattern matches on the existence of *all* keywords in a programme's title and/or description (the pattern title as defined above is ignored in this instance). A keyword can be preceded by a minus sign, in which case the pattern will fail to match any programme whose title or description contains the remainder of the keyword.

Examples:

Keywords to match	Possible matching programme titles
Who, Doctor	Doctor Who
–Who, Doctor	Doctor Kildare

UNIQUE: A programme is said to be unique if its description and title are different to those of other programmes matching a pattern. Using the "UNIQUE" setting you can choose to delete any future "copies" of an episode of a programme once one version of that particular episode has been recorded successfully.

For example, every episode of EastEnders on BBC1 is repeated later in the day on BBC3. If a pattern is created for all EastEnders episodes on all BBC channels with UNIQUE set to "yes", then *iGuide* will note that the BBC3 episode is a copy of the earlier BBC1 episode, and not set a timer for it. More importantly, if the BBC1 episode fails to record then *iGuide* will immediately create a timer for the BBC3 episode in its place.

In *iGuide*, it *is* possible to have gradations of uniqueness (despite what Simon Fisher[1] may maintain). *iGuide* uses a simple statistical analysis to compare two programme descriptions to see if they are the same as each other. This is useful where, for example, the BBC1 episode of EastEnders is described as "Billy buys Peggy a metronome", while the BBC3 episode describes it as "Billy buys Peggy a metronome. Followed by the news" – we can see they're the same episode, even though the descriptions are different. *iGuide* potentially allows a certain degree of difference so that these will match.

The UNIQUE settings (changed by using the [LEFT/RIGHT ARROW] therefore can be one of:

yes: If the description and title match exactly (other than for punctuation and case) the second programme will be deleted.

no: We don't care about a recorded episode being unique, so every episode will be recorded regardless.

xx%:   Programmes will be considered the same – i.e. the second episode deleted – if they are statistically *xx%* similar to each other. The default of 70% seems to work fairly well in most cases where there's doubt.
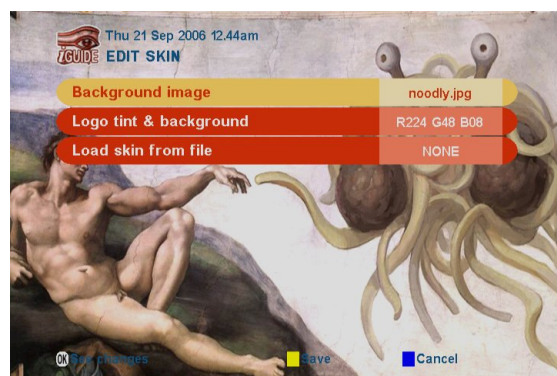

8. The Edit Skin Screen

This screen allows the look and feel of *iGuide* to be edited. The colour of various parts of the display screen can be changed, and background images and skin files loaded and previewed.

Key actions:

[OK]: Preview any changes made.

[YELLOW]: Saves the current state of *iGuide*'s skin and exits; incidentally, this action also causes *iGuide* to re-parse MP3 files in the iguide directory, so if you want new background music just upload the files and resave the current skin here.

[BLUE]: Exits without saving

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[1] Google it. Go on. Google it.

Three options are available:

BACKGROUND IMAGE:
All JPEG images in the `iguide` directory that are the correct size for a background (720x576 pixels) are listed here, along with two other options:

NONE: Use a solid fill colour ("Logo tint & background" below) instead of a background image.

BROADCAST: Show the currently broadcast programme as a backdrop to *iGuide*.

Note that pixels on the Toppy screen are not symmetrical. Thus if you are creating an image to use as a background, it is best to create an image of 720x540 for a 4:3 standard screen or 720x405 for a 16:9 widescreen, and then stretch it to 720x576 pixels. Images provided with *iGuide* are designed for 16:9 screen.

COLOUR ("LOGO TINT & BACKGROUND" in the image above):
Various different parts of the screen can be assigned different colours. Pressing [LEFT/RIGHT ARROW] cycles through:

> BAR COLOUR
> SELECTED BAR COLOUR
> HIGHTLIGHT
> SELECTED HIGHLIGHT
> TEXT ON BAR
> TEXT ON SELECTED BAR
> TEXT ABOVE BARS
> TEXT BELOW BARS
> LOGO TINT & BACKGROUND

As each colour type is displayed its current RGB value is shown. This can be changed by pressing: [1] or [7] (red value up/down); [2] or [8] (green value up/down); [3] or [9] (blue value up or down). At any point press [OK] to preview.

LOAD SKIN FROM FILE:
This option (navigated again through [LEFT/RIGHT ARROW]) lists skin files found in the `iguide` directory.

Skin files can be either native *iGuide* files (with a .skn extension) or *MyStuff* skin files (.mcf extension) from which *iGuide* makes an educated guess as to appropriate colour schemes. Press OK to preview a skin.

The Now-and-next Banner

During playback of a recording or viewing of a broadcast programme, pressing the [INFO] key will bring up the Now and Next banner. If there are no on-screen graphics at the time, pressing [UP/DOWN/LEFT/RIGHT ARROW] or [CHANNEL UP/DOWN] will also bring up the banner.

The banner shows information about individual programmes on a channel, or the currently playing recording. If the description is for a playing recording or current broadcast, a progress bar is shown giving a visual representation of how much has been viewed. If the description is for a programme (rather than a recording) a short "next" bar above the banner gives a little lead-in information regarding the next programme on the same channel.

The following keys are available:

[LEFT/RIGHT ARROW]: Move to the previous/next programme on the channel

[UP/DOWN ARROW]: Move to the current programme on the previous/next channel (without changing channel).

[CHANNEL UP/DOWN]: Move to the current programme on the previous/next channel, and retune to that channel immediately.

[0-9]: A channel can be navigated to directly by typing the channel number in and then pressing [OK]. If a wrong digit is pressed, press [LEFT ARROW] to delete it.

As a channel number is typed *iGuide* will show information regarding that channel, and the title of the programme currently showing on it.

[OK]: If the banner is describing the programme currently being broadcast on a channel other than the one currently tuned to, retune to that channel. If that's not the case then act as if [REC] were pressed (see below).

[REC]:
If the programme being looked at has a series-link pattern, delete it.

If that's not the case and the programme has a normal recording, turn it into a series link pattern.

If that's not the case then set up a recording.

When viewing the now/next banner during playback, information about the currently playing recording is displayed. This is similar to the now/next banner displayed for a broadcast programme, with the addition of a red caret on the progress bar at the point at which the recording is currently being played.

The current recording can be navigated in a number of ways:

[REW/FFW]: Initiates rewind (x1, x2, x3) or fast-forward (x2, x4, x6) in the standard Toppy way.

[LEFT/RIGHT]: Moves the red caret point left or right of the current play position in steps of 1% of the recording: press [OK] when the caret is at the desired point to move playback to that position.

[RED]: Move the current play position back 10 seconds.

[YELLOW/BLUE]: Move the current play position back/forward respectively by a given amount of time. This amount defaults to 3 minutes. Every time the direction changes (going from [YELLOW] to [BLUE] or vice versa) the amount used halves.

Successively using [YELLOW] and [BLUE], therefore, allows you to easily home in on a point in the playback you're looking for – just as using REW and FFW would help you to find the start of a particular *Boney M* track on a compilation tape in a 1970s cassette recorder.

Pressing any other key resets the amount of time to 3 minutes.

Edit Mode

There are a number of circumstances in which things need to be edited – EPG View names, pattern titles and keywords, for example. At these times *iGuide* enters Edit Mode, allowing text to be entered via the remote control.

Text is entered using the number keys in a system similar to that of a mobile phone. Pressing a number key repeatedly cycles through the following characters:

1	PERIOD, COMMA, DASH, QUOTE, '(', ')', '$', '£', '!', '1'
2	'A', 'B', 'C', '2'
3	'D', 'E', 'F', '3'
4	'G', 'H', 'I', '4'
5	'J', 'K', 'L', '5'
6	'M', 'N', 'O', '6'
7	'P', 'Q', 'R', 'S', '7'
8	'T', 'U', 'V', '8'
9	'W', 'X', 'Y', 'Z', '9'
0	SPACE, '*', '?', DOUBLE-QUOTE, BACKSLASH, '|', '0'

As with some mobile phones, pausing a short period forces the cursor to move on one character, so multiple characters from the same key can be entered. For example, to produce the letters 'C' and 'A' for the word 'CAR', press the [2] key three times in quick succession for the letter 'C' and then pause. After a short period the cursor will move forward one space, allowing you to press the [2] key again to produce the letter 'A'.

Other key actions are available in edit mode:

[RED]: Change case from lower to upper or vice versa

[GREEN]: Delete one character

[YELLOW]: Clear the line completely

[OK]: Finish editing and save the result

[EXIT]: Finish editing but don't save the result

The Support Files

iGuide requires a number of support files to aid its configuration. Some are compulsory, others are not. If a compulsory file does not exist one will be created. All exist in the same directory as the *iGuide* TAP or, just to make it neater, in an `iguide` directory which is itself in the same directory as the *iGuide* TAP, if one exists.

Configuration files are human-editable, but a bit esoteric: where it's useful, they are described more fully in sections below.

The following files may be found:

iguide.epc: basic configuration data including channel groups, EPG views and options selections (see below)

iguide.epr: a list of the current recordings

iguide.epg: a list of the current EPG data, updated automatically overnight or created through the configuration screen

xxxxx.skn & *xxxxx*.mcf: skin files defining colours (see below) and background image (in the case of .skn files only). On start up *iGuide* will try to load iguide.skn and, failing that, iguide.mcf. .mcf skin files are in a standard *MyStuff* format; *iGuide* tries to make best use of the colours in these files by mapping entries onto its own requirements.

xxxxx.igs: multiple language files holding date-time representations and *iGuide*'s strings in appropriate languages: *english.igs*, *polski.igs* and *norsk.igs* are provided as standard. Other languages can be added by creating new *.igs* files in the same format; make sure exactly the same number of strings are provided, and that the file ends with the string "EOF".

xxxxx.mp3: All valid MP3 files with a .mp3 extension in the iguide directory will be played in turn by *iGuide* as background music; if you don't want background music, delete all .mp3 files from the iguide directory.

Music is provided for use with *iGuide* in the zipfile at http://www.shinyford.co.uk/toppy/iguide_music.zip. This music is copyright Kevin MacLeod[2] and licensed under Creative Commons Attribution 2.0[3,4].

logo.dat: channel logos as created by the UK Timers logo TAP

iguide.log: not a log file, but bespoke logos for e.g. the channel groups, in the same format as *logo.dat*.

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[2] http://incompetech.com

[3] http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/

[4] I'd also add Oscar Peterson's rendition of *the Girl from Ipanema* if you have a copy to hand. It rocks. (Well, jazzes.)

The iguide.epc configuration file

A typical .epc may have the following content:

```
9|0|0|0|1|3|5|3|1|1|

Nic's EPG|
Nic's EPG|english|1|18|BBC ONE|BBC TWO|BBC THREE|
BBC FOUR|CBeebies|BBC Radio 4|BBC 7|ITV1|ITV2|ITV3|ITV4|CITV|
five|SKY THREE|Channel 4|E4|More 4|FilmFour|
Sam's EPG|english|2|2|CBeebies|CITV|
EOF|

5|
All channels|1|*|
All BBC channels|2|*BBC*|Cbeebies|
All ITV channels|1|*ITV*|
Channel Four group|4|Channel 4|E4|More 4|Film4|
Channel Five group|1|Five*|

BBC ONE|1|Doctor Who||32|1080|1440|16|
EOF|
```

The iguide.epc file can be edited, but it's not very obvious, so let's take each bit in turn:

```
9|0|0|0|1|3|5|3|1|1|
```
This is the current set of selections for *iGuide*'s options: the first number says that there are nine options, and is followed by nine option choices as set in the configuration screen. You'll probably never feel the need to edit this directly.

```
Nic's EPG|
```
The next line specifies the name of the EPG View currently being used as the default.

```
Nic's EPG|english|1|18|BBC ONE|BBC TWO|BBC THREE|BBC FOUR|
CBeebies|BBC Radio 4|BBC 7|ITV1|ITV2|ITV3|ITV4|CITV|five|SKY
THREE|Channel 4|E4|More 4|FilmFour|
Sam's EPG|english|2|2|CBeebies|CITV|
EOF|
```
The next block specifies the EPG Views, and terminates the list with the string "EOF" – don't delete this or it'll get very confused.

Each EPG View is defined as:
```
name|language|id|number of channels|channel 0 name|…|channel N
name|
```

```
5|
All channels|1|*|
All BBC channels|2|*BBC*|Cbeebies|
All ITV channels|1|*ITV*|
Channel Four group|4|Channel 4|E4|More 4|Film4|
Channel Five group|1|Five*|
```

The next block specifies the channel groups. A channel is said to belong to a channel group if its name matches one of a number of patterns attached to that group; so, BBC channels as defined above are all channels with BBC somewhere in the name, or the Cbeebies channel; ITV channels just have ITV in the name; and so on.

The first integer (5 above) is the number of groups in total. Following lines define a group thus:
```
group name|number of patterns|pattern 0|…|pattern N|
```

```
BBC ONE|1|Doctor Who||32|1080|1440|16|
EOF|
```

The next block specifies the series-link patterns for each channel or channel group. One channel/group per line, the block terminated again with an "EOF" string.

Each line has the following format:
```
channel/group name|number of patterns|patterns
```

Each pattern has the following format:
```
programme title pattern|keywords|integer representing days|start
time|end time|unique value (20 = unique, 0 = not unique, other
integers = gradations of uniqueness)
```

iGuide uses its own datetime object, basically representing any time as the number of minutes since midnight on 1/1/2005. The start time and end time in the pattern line above, then, are the number of minutes since the start of a day: 1080 = 6.00pm, 1440 = midnight.

The iguide.skn configuration file

The iguide.skn file consists of 13 lines separated by commas:

> Background image
> Bar colour
> Highlight colour on bar
> Bar colour when selected
> Highlight colour on bar when selected
> Bar colour when selected for movement
> Text colour on bar
> Text colour on selected bar
> Text colour against background above the bars
> Text colour against background below the bars
> A 'red' colour for programmes that are recording
> A 'blue' colour for programmes that are being watched
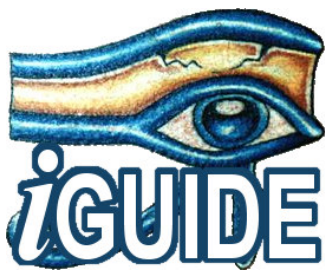> Background colour in the absence of a background image

The background image line can be one of:
> NONE: there is no background image, so use the background colour instead
> BROADCAST: Show (and hear) the broadcast channel through *iGuide*; no background music is played, nor is the sound muted when *iGuide* screens are active.
> *XXXXXX*.JPG: a jpeg image to display as background, found in the same directory as the skin file.

All other lines define colours. Each can be one of:
> RRR,GGG,BBB: three integers below 256 defining the red, green and blue components of the on-screen colour.
> CCCCC: a single integer with a high bit set (0x8000) representing the RGB8888 encoding of the colour
> #RRGGBB: a hex number for the colour, where RR, GG and BB are two-digit hex values for the red, green and blue components.